

Northwest Missourian



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Survivor works toward recovery

KAREN A. GATES
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

A Northwest student spent her 21st birthday fighting to survive one of the worst plane crashes of the year, a crash that was felt throughout the world. Now she says she wants to be back to school as early as second block, which would be only 82 days after the tragedy.

Mercedes Lilana Ramirez, a junior international business major, is hoping to continue with classes before the end of the spring semester.

University President Dean Hubbard said he talked to Ramirez's head nurse at Truman Medical Center in Kansas City, Mo., where Ramirez is in serious but stable condition as of Wednesday night.

"The nurse said she says she wants to come back second block," Hubbard said. "We will work with her in anyway we can to help her get back on her feet."

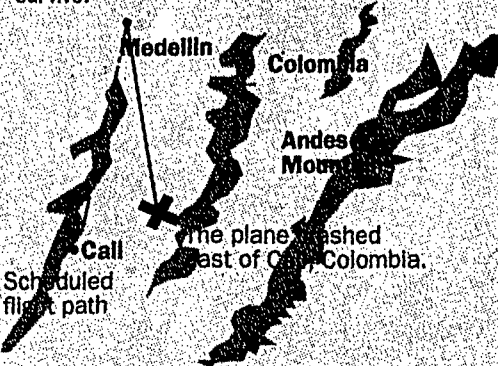
Ramirez sustained fractured ribs and a fractured leg along with internal injuries.

Ramirez name is a familiar one to many students and faculty around campus. She is involved in Student Ambassadors and the Hispanic American Leadership Organization. She is also a member of the Phi Mu Sorority.

For people having problems coping with this or memories of another loss, Jennifer Hecox, a

Flight 965

An American Airlines Boeing 757 crashed Dec. 20. The plane carried 164 people, of that 160 did not survive.



counselor at the University, encourages people to stop by the counseling center.

"The important thing is what not to say (to Ramirez)," Hecox said. "Do not say you understand or know how she feels. It is important you are as normal as possible and honest."

Ramirez left with her parents, Benjamin and Mercedes Ramirez, from Kansas City International Airport on American Airlines flight 965 to spend her semester break with family in Colombia.

Around 8:45 p.m. CST the Boeing 757 went

► CRASH, page 4

Peers support Ramirez, family

CYNTHIA HANSEN
MISSOURIAN STAFF

News trickled in as to whether or not a friend's life was taken in a plane crash. Was she on the plane or not? Rumors flew everywhere. Papers were talking about anywhere from one to eight survivors.

"I heard from Roger Pugh that there was a possibility Mercedes was on the plane," student ambassador president David Zwank said. "Later that night I began trying to contact American Airlines at their 1-800 number to find out for sure whether or not she was on the plane. As I was standing there waiting on the phone I thought to myself 'how unreal this is to know a person in this situation.'"

By the time more news arrived, no one could wait anymore. But the time waiting was worth it. Mercedes L. Ramirez, international business major, was alive — one of four survivors.

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, Ramirez was traveling with her parents, Benjamin and Mercedes, to visit her grandparents in Colombia, South America. The plane veered into a peak in the Andes Mountains in the Southwest region of Colombia at 8:40 p.m., and soon after it crashed.

For one friend it was an eye-opening situation to hear of her friend's experience, but seeing was believing.

"Mercedes came into Kansas City on Monday, the first (Jan. 1) I think, and I went to see her that Friday," fellow Phi Mu



Mercedes Ramirez

member Kerry Koenig said. "We only got to talk to her for about 10 minutes, and she was very tired but speaking fine and she was cognitively fine."

When Phi Mu president Patty Adams heard about the crash, disbelief hit her too.

"It was hard to believe something so... national happened to a friend of yours," Adams said.

When reality set in that Ramirez had survived, the push was on to support her on her road to recovery.

"KQ2 came to the Public Relations office that Friday and interviewed me," Zwank said. "Being able to talk on behalf of Mercedes was a real honor."

After seeing her friend, Adams saw a positive future for Ramirez.

"She is definitely on her way to recovery....," Adams said. "She's gonna be fine."

Many people, like Cindy Munita, international business major, are simply hoping for Ramirez's soon return to Northwest.

"She has a long road ahead, but we will all be glad when she is back," Munita said.

The air at Northwest seems to be filled with high hopes.

"E.T. phone home"



Construction in the snow. After a day of classes, Tana Levtag creates a snow woman next to Garrett Strong. A snowy weekend and cold temperatures left

Maryville with the right construction materials for the building of many snow people. Earlier in the week, the wind chill reached down to 15 degrees below zero.

MITCH BAYSINGER/Missourian Photographer

Students to pay more for college experience

ROB J. BROWN
CHIEF REPORTER

Students will pay a bit more to attend Northwest next year, especially on campus.

Once again, the University is raising tuition for the next school year. It is also raising on-campus housing fees, effective in fall 1996. The 1996-97 budget still awaits Board of Regents approval in its Wednesday meeting.

Missouri residents will pay \$80.50 per credit hour (up from \$76) while out-of-state students will pay \$140.25 per credit hour (up from \$132.50). In-state graduate students' rate will raise to \$101.25/hour and out-of-state graduate students will pay \$179.25/hour.

Warren Gose, vice president for Finance, backs the decision to raise the tuition to keep up with technology and with other schools.

"We are increasing the tuition to meet our needs in inflation percentage," Gose said. "Also the state is appropriating less money per capita each year to the University, so the increase is needed."

In addition to the increased tuition fees, all students will have to pay a \$2 per credit hour fee to further develop the electronic campus. In other words, a student taking 15 credit hours would pay a \$30 technology fee effective fall 1996.

New on-campus students will also pay more for residence hall living than current residents do. Depending on the meal plan, students could be paying up to \$200 more per semester. However, those living in the halls now will pay the 1995-96 rates if they stay on campus next year.

All this additional revenue is to compensate for the decreasing amount of state revenue the

Revenue

Student Tuition/Fees	\$13,321,536 (actual 94-95)	\$13,784,644 (budget 95-96)
State Appropriation (less Governor Reserve 3%)	\$19,863,132 (actual 94-95)	\$21,085,650 (budget 95-96)
Other (Investment income; private scholarships, sales and services; summer camps, etc.)	\$3,380,555 (actual 94-95)	\$2,982,893 (budget 95-96)
TOTAL	\$36,565,223 (actual 94-95)	\$37,853,187 (budget 95-96)

University is receiving. The majority of the state's funds is going to prisons, health care, interest on debts and tax reduction rather than to education. In fact, since 1979, students have paid \$14.2 billion more in tuition and state taxpayers have paid \$9.8 billion less while federal taxpayers have paid \$4.5 billion less.

However, the University possesses a unique expense in the electronic campus. When it began 1987, the state donated \$1.7 million to start the system, but Northwest has had to cover all costs to upgrade, which has added up to more than \$5 million.

"The needs of software, curriculum applications in classrooms, training of faculty and working on the internet are very important needs for the University VAX," University controller Ray Courter said.

The new budget also provides for new computer technical support employees. A computer store that will have notebook computers and miscellaneous accessories is slated to open in the fall of 1996.

Although the University is raising tuition once again, Northwest will still be the least-expensive state-funded university in Missouri.

Budget falls short for Colden

KAREN A. GATES
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

As the long-awaited renovations begin on Colden Hall, there may not be enough money to finish the construction.

In order to finish the project, University officials must now ask the coordinating board for the state of Missouri for more money at the Board of Regents meeting on Wednesday. As the University begins to look into phase three of the renovations, another \$3 million is needed to finish the second half of the second floor of Colden Hall.

Warren Gose, vice president of Finance, said the total cost of all the phases of renovations will be more than \$6 million. Phases one and two of the renovations cost the University more than \$3 million, which the state funded.

The state will take recommendations from the coordinating board to make decisions about the funds.

Gose said he is hopeful the University will receive the money. If not, however, he said the University has some money on reserve, and the Board

of Regents will decide if any of the money will be used.

Gose said he gives recommendations to the University about how to handle money situations.

"(If this should happen) I would not recommend the University borrowing the money," Gose said.

Before phase one of the renovations, the state proposed several ideas of what the University could do. University President Dean Hubbard decided to renovate the buildings instead of building new ones. The state then granted money for Colden Hall and Administration Building renovations.

Gose said part of the phase three money will come from local capital funds, which includes restricted tuition. Part of restricted tuition will be raised for the phase three renovations, but Gose said those increases are very small.

Only \$1.25 of the total tuition increase per credit hour would be used for the project, 30 cents of which would go to local capital funds.

Frank Strong Jr., Board of Regents member, said he was not aware the University was asking the

► COLDEN, page 11

University hires department chair as dean

CHRIS TRIEBSCH
MANAGING EDITOR

Students in the College of Arts and Sciences have a new leader this semester as Taylor Barnes will become the new dean of that college.

University President Dean Hubbard announced at the opening faculty and staff meeting Jan. 4 that Barnes, former chair of the Geology/Geography department, will become the dean of Arts and Sciences, pending Board of Regents approval.

The announcement comes after the University came up with five candidates for the position late last semester. Two candidates, including Barnes, were within the University. Hubbard said he prefers to promote from within the University.

"When a person comes from the inside, they understand the system and we understand them as candidates," Hubbard said.

Hubbard commended Barnes for strong leadership skills. He also said Barnes had gained respect from the faculty and that is what made him better suited for the position.

Barnes said he is always an optimist, but believed that all the candidates were qualified.

He is also excited about his position, but does not look to make any major changes, saying the University is on the right track.

Barnes came to the University in 1992 because he liked the direction the University was taking with its quality approach.

"What I see is a continuing evolution," he said. "The college has done an outstanding job, but will continue to be challenged by the same forces that challenge higher education everywhere."

Our View

Government shutdown
plagues future voters

Bickering, finger pointing and politics have dominated recent news coverage, while several thousand federal workers were temporarily left without jobs and without pay. It is obvious that election 1996 is well underway.

The recent government shutdown was politics at its worst, not only leaving 260,000 federal workers idle, but leaving another 500,000 without pay during the holidays.

A balanced budget is good, but a government shutdown was not necessary to achieve that goal. Senate majority leader Bob Dole finally broke with the radical Republicans and helped put an end to the shutdown, even knowing they would criticize him heavily.

But the blame game and finger pointing needs to stop. The American people are sick of seeing the babies in Washington whine every time some little thing does not go their way.

A government shutdown is not healthy for a country that wants to provide jobs and have a capitalist market. When people are out of work, they obviously can't spend money. Businesses saw this over Christmas when parents had to tell their children that Santa wasn't going to be as good to them this year. It is a simple fact that when people don't make money, they don't spend it.

When the shutdown began, many took it as a joke, saying the federal workers would be getting a free paid vacation. But the country has realized that it was no laughing matter.

The government shutdown had and will continue to have its repercussions, according to the White House.

About 23,000 people a day were unable to apply for passports, 170,000 veterans won't receive education benefit payments for December and January, 155 federal campgrounds and monuments were closed, 20,000 complaints were issued each day about child support payments being on hold and 32 environmental cleanups were suspended, among other things.

Long-term repercussions are also a possibility as officials say the government has suspended paying private companies that process Medicare claims, and that money will dry up next week for a meal program that feeds 600,000 homeless elderly, according to *USA Today*.

It is shocking that all these things

went on while government officials sat around and blamed each other for the situation and canceled meeting after meeting. Whole days would go by with nobody talking while federal workers waited anxiously as 1996 came.

By day 20 of the shutdown, veterans hospitals were out of money for medicine, people in several states could not apply for unemployment and many workers still can't pay holiday bills or mortgages.

Meanwhile, our elected leaders were enjoying their holidays, leaving the worrying up to those innocent people who were simply trying to do their jobs and make ends meet. The elected officials are the same ones who raise their pay. Congressional pay raises

would not be a problem if these individuals were earning it. But putting people out of work hardly qualifies as "doing your job." These people have lost sight and are vastly out of touch with the American people and their needs.

This may have been a joke for government officials, but it certainly was not a joke for the individuals who paid the price of the government shutdown.

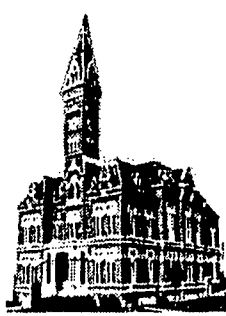
If the Republicans are right about the need to balance the budget, then there must be other ways to achieve that goal. The need to achieve a balanced budget has been overshadowed by the devastation this government shutdown has posed to many people.

The Republicans are right about the need to cut spending. A compromise can be reached between the two sides if the Democrats agree to deeper cuts on the growth of Medicare and Medicaid and if the Republicans agree to cut back on their proposed \$218 billion tax cut. But it takes compromise.

Right now, it does not appear that anyone is really ready to compromise. They are playing the American people for fools and they are expecting them to play right into their game. Maybe it is time to elect a third party into power that truly cares more about the American people than fighting and bickering with the other main political party.

Quite obviously, our elected officials should be ashamed of themselves for what they put several American people through. Let's just hope these officials can see now that the government shutdown was a tremendous mistake. America can't afford for this to happen again.

CITY EDITORIAL



CAMPUS IMPACT

Refer to Campus New page 11 for impact on financial aid.



My Turn

Vacation highlights split in friendships

I never thought breaking away from home would come in this way. In books and movies, it's always huge fun or tragedy that tears friends apart for years.

I never thought breaking away would sound like unanswered phone calls or look like awkward smiles at an awkward party.

You first-year freshmen might not understand what I'm talking about because I bet you stuck pretty close to your friends during your first semester break (no matter how short it is) and are currently very bitter about being back to school already.

Me, I was ready to come back. While you were probably spending each night with your close high school friends, I was working a lot and waiting for somebody — any of my friends — to call and say, "Hey, let's catch a movie," or "Let's get together and rent movies."

It's not such a weird thought — it's what my friends at college do quite often and what my old group of high school friends used to do all the time.

Instead, it turned out we all each spent our winter break slouched in front of the television and wondering where everybody was.

Maybe that's just laziness, but I think there's more to it than that.

One of my friends did try to get us all



COLLEEN COOKE

Growing differences,
new experiences pull
friends apart slowly

together for a Christmas party, but for me it was more of an eye-opener more than a fun get-together.

I saw a bunch of smoking, beer-drinking people relating their stories of bad grades and drunken nights and stinking up the room with their Marlboros. These were not the same people with whom I shared my high school years. Or maybe they were — maybe I'm not the same girl they went to school with.

In any case, I found myself searching for any excuse to leave early because I had

nothing in common with them anymore except similar-looking high school diplomas.

I guess it shouldn't sadden me as much as it does because it was inevitable. We've found different friends at different schools and we've had different experiences. With that many factions, no wonder it's so hard to stay cohesive.

In one sense, these new experiences should enhance old friendships because we have more to talk about and more stories to share.

But I guess those new friendships can change each of us, so instead of one big group of friends, we are each a representative of our new group.

I hope this is making sense because I have a feeling other people are finding themselves in the same boat.

I should be happy that I've found new friends at college, but it's getting hard to look at old high school yearbooks without a wistful sigh for old friendships.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind ... should auld acquaintances be forgot in days of auld lang syne - Robert Burns.

Colleen Cooke is the copy director for the Northwest Missourian.

Purpose and Politics

Republicans should enjoy new status

George Bernard Shaw said there are two tragedies in life. One is to lose your heart's desire; the other is to gain it.

After winning control of the U.S. House for the first time since 1954, an argument exists that conservative lawmakers should live up to the morbid accusations coming from Democrats so they do not give the appearance of waffling on issues. But politics is the art of compromise and must be honored as such.

Absent a decrepit legislative model, once elected, the House Republicans immediately set upon what they were sent there to do — to pass the audacious Contract with America within the first 100 days. And they did it in 93 days.

After this, the great budget debate of 1995 began and the House started considering the 13 appropriation bills that make up the federal budget.

In the meantime, the Democrats in Congress saw that a mandate had been sent by the electorate and responded with a quid pro quo of senseless babbling.

Becoming aberrant demagogues, they labeled the freshman Republicans as extremist which is just a euphemism for citizen politicians elected to do the people's work.

Some conservatives are arguing over the



HAWKEYE WILSON

Party needs to be patient
and assess role as
Congressional majority

ideological battle over the proper size and scope of government and say that Washington, D.C., will continue to be a Byzantine city.

They deserve to be worried. With the problems of society like crime and rampant drug use, government at all levels — local, state and national — spends \$24,000 per household or about \$2.5 trillion a year on the problems still exist. We must rely on something else other than an unfriendly, archaic and cumbersome bureaucratic federal government.

As Republicans, we must be more compliant and assess the fact that we are now constructionists instead of being a minority party. Ideally, we must see the trees for the forest (government is dumb), amalgamate behind a plan (balancing the budget) and leave the whining to the liberals (Michael Kinsley and Margaret Carlson for Time magazine).

Putting policy into action involves analysis, tact, planning and strategy. Removing the nanny state in America erected by the left will take time. Have some patience and enjoy the reins of power.

Remember it has been only one year since taking control of both houses of Congress. The Democrats have become merely income redistributors and are spending future American generations tax dollars. They will remain as such for some time.

As the Democratic party becomes more and more fragmented, Republicans will be able to enjoy themselves for many years to come. Besides, let us not become the tragedy the Democratic party is today.

Hawkeye Wilson is the political correspondent for the Northwest Missourian.

NorthwestMissourian

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Terry Knab, Web Associate Editor

Letters to the Editor

We appreciated all the letters we have received, but please limit your letters to 200 WORDS because of space constraints. We have the right to refuse and to refuse to edit letters. Letters must be signed and include the author's name, address and day and night home numbers for verification purposes. Send letters to Wells Hall #8 or by E-mail at 0500214.

Editor's Note: The Missourian would like to apologize for comparing ARAMark to thieves in the Dec. 7 campus our view. The Missourian did not intend to offend anyone; the writer's use of sarcasm was simply misunderstood.

In the Nov. 30 issue of the Missourian, the My Turn column was in no way intended to accuse Wal-Mart of illegal inspections. Wal-Mart's car inspections are just \$7, and the company does not pass cars that are not up to standards. We apologize for any misunderstanding it has caused.

Community Turn

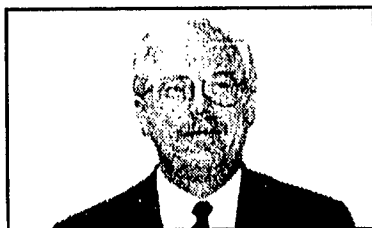
Inmate classifications shape center

Since my arrival in Maryville to assume the role of Superintendent of the Maryville Treatment Center, many of the most frequent questions I have been asked have centered around the Department of Corrections' classification of inmates and the Treatment Center's designation as a level 2 facility. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you something about our inmate classification system.

When an inmate is sentenced to serve a period of felony incarceration, he/she is delivered to the Department's Reception and Diagnostic Center.

There, the inmate is assessed by personnel in terms of his/her medical needs, mental health needs, public risk needs (assessment of the potential risk he/she may present while assigned to an institution), educational needs, vocational education needs and work skills.

The classification system is utilized to ensure that inmates receive a correct custody assignment, that they are placed in an appropriate and productive full-time work assignment and/or mandatory treatment program and that they are prepared for restitution upon release.



BILL BURGESS

Maryville Treatment Center will confine prisoners for substance abuse therapy

Utilizing a classification instrument, each inmate is assigned a custody level from five (C-5) to one (C-1). Level five (C-5) facilities are the Department's most secure and restrictive facilities which house inmates that have a sentence, or cumulative sentences, of 30 years or

more with no outdate (release date) under 10 years. Level one (C-1) facilities are the Department's least restrictive institutions and have assigned to them inmates with less than 12 months remaining to serve before their expected release.

The St. Louis and Kansas City Community Release Centers are the Department's level one (C-1) facilities and, while inmates are housed at these facilities, most are released for scheduled periods for pre-approved work, school and treatment activity.

As previously mentioned, the Maryville Treatment Center has been designated a level two (C-2) facility. The mission of the Center is to confine low-custody inmates who are substance abuse involved, for assignment to drug and alcohol treatment and intervention. Inmates assigned to the facility will have 12 to 28 months remaining to serve and they will serve up to 12 months at this location before release to their home community on parole supervision.

Bill Burgess is the Superintendent of the Maryville Treatment Center.

Campus View

Eating disorders amount to suicide

We may have a national medical and psychological emergency in northwest Missouri, as well as on this campus. This problem hasn't put out the same plea for national education and awareness as other issues such as AIDS and drunk driving; however, the potential may be just as lethal. The problem I'm describing is suicide.

This is not the suicide one may see dramatically scripted on television where someone is threatening to jump out of a window while a group of onlookers gather below or running toward the edge of a bridge while the individual's friends pull him/her back.

This form of suicide may involve teams of doctors, numerous hospital visits and countless tears. The suicide that I'm referring to is an eating disorder. Many people have heard of the terms "anorexia nervosa" and "bulimia," however few fully comprehend the severity of these disorders.

The cries for help from people with eating disorders are muffled by the media's focus on thinness and "beauty." Many of those who are struggling with an eating disorder are unable to hear their own cries because they fight a battle within themselves.



JENNIFER HECOX

Trying to become "beautiful," many victims slowly starve themselves to death

This battle is just as perplexing and frustrating to those who suffer with it as to those who are trying to understand it from an objective perspective.

If you were to ask someone who talks about skipping meals for days at a time, purging food, trying to lose "just 10 more pounds" in order to look "good," or needing to exercise continuously

whether or not he/she felt "suicidal," this person would most likely indicate that his/her eating problems have nothing to do with suicide.

The sad reality is that when you starve your body and/or purge your body of the nutrition it so desperately needs, you are progressing down a pathway that has the potential of death.

The good news is that hope and help are available. It is possible to change courses and begin walking down a pathway that leads to healthy bodies, good nutrition and positive self-esteem.

National Eating Disorders Screening Day has been developed with the goal of helping as many people recognize eating problems as possible.

This year, for the first time, Northwest will be teaming with St. Francis Hospital to sponsor the screening day on Feb. 7 in the Union Ballroom. This will be an opportunity for everyone to receive a confidential and free eating disorders evaluation. I urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to address an issue that is "dying for attention."

Jennifer Hecox is a counselor in the counseling center.

Your Turn

How do you think the government shutdown affected the country?



Kevin Johnson
Education major

"I think it made people realize how important government bureaucracy is."



Steve Gilson
undecided major

"I think a lot of people were not getting paid right now. Many of them are not able to make payments on their homes, on their cars or whatever. They may be kicked out on the street. It also affects people who aren't federal workers because they don't get the support. Also, tourists come to places that are closed."



Monica Howard
Public Relations major

"I think that the government shutdown may have, especially since it was for the second time, given the American citizens a little less faith in the government. I really think that it is frustrating for the American people to not be able to see that our government can work together and get along."



Mary Breedlove
homemaker

"People without income and the welfare people are hurting. It makes the economy bad."



Evelyn Summa
merchandise for Hallmark Cards

"I was very, very disgusted. I have voted Republican all my life, but I am not sure if I will do it again because I was upset with both sides. This year, it is just going to be a toss-up."



Ruby Turner
homemaker

"I think it was atrocious. I think it was the government playing politics. I don't think 99 percent of the officials in Washington have any idea what the real world is like."

INTRODUCTORY SPECIALS

January Specials

PAINT

- Introductory Prices
- Discontinued Label
- Fresh Start
- Superhide
- Sundries
- Pristine
- Caulk

FLOOR COVERINGS

- Mill Carpet Specials
- Vinyl Roll Promotions
- Odds & Ends Ceramic Tile
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Calendar

Thursday, Jan. 11

8:15 a.m. - CLEP, GED and MAT test in 120 Wells Hall.
5:30 p.m. - Night registration at the Student Services desk in the Administration Building.
7 p.m. - Intramurals free throw contest.
7 p.m. - Intramurals spot shot contest.
7 p.m. - Free throw contest entries due.
7 p.m. - Spot shot contest entries due.
7 & 9:30 p.m. - CAPs film "How To Make An American Quilt" in the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

Friday, Jan. 12

8:15 a.m. - CLEP, GED and MAT tests in 120 Wells.
Last day to add/enroll semester classes, establish department test-out and to change class pass-fail.

Saturday, Jan. 13

5:30 p.m. - Women's basketball vs. Pittsburg State University.
7:30 p.m. - Men's basketball vs. Pittsburg State University.
Four-state music festival.

Sunday, Jan. 14

7 p.m. - Sigma Phi Epsilon meeting in the Regents Room.
7 p.m. - Science Fiction Club meeting in the Stockman's Room.

Monday, Jan. 15

7 p.m. - Basketball Officials meeting in 133 Lampkin Activity Center.
Full payment/first installment due.

No classes because of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
Owens Library closed because of the holiday.
The library will resume normal hours on Tuesday.
Classes will also resume as normal on Tuesday.

Tuesday, Jan. 16

Noon - Basketball 5x5 entries due.
7 p.m. - Intramural preseason basketball.

Wednesday, Jan. 17

10 a.m. - Board of Regents meeting.
5:30 p.m. - Women's basketball vs. Rockhurst in Kansas City.
5:30 p.m. - Women's basketball vs. Southwest Baptist in the Bearcat Arena. "No basketball classes"
7:30 p.m. - Men's basketball vs. Southwest Baptist in the Bearcat Arena.
7:30 p.m. - Hypnotist Jim Wand in the Mary Linn.

Cold weather brings safety concerns

KAREN A. GATES
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Because Maryville can become an icy, bitter cold winter wonderland, you need to take pains to protect yourself from the dangers of the cold.

Frostbite is a common danger that accompanies cold weather. Mary Simmons, a certified emergency nurse at St. Francis Hospital, said ears, fingers, toes and hands are the body parts most vulnerable because they have the least amount of circulation.

"It is real important to keep those things covered up," Simmons said. "Wool socks are good and mittens are warmer than gloves."

Simmons said frostbite occurs when the blood tissues freeze. If the blood does not flow for a long period of time, the tissues will die. Once the tissues die, the body part usually has to be amputated.

Pale and blue hands are a sign of frost bite, Simmons said that person

needs to seek medical attention.

"If your hands are just cold and you do not need medical attention, always warm up slowly," Simmons said. "Use lukewarm water, not hot, and don't get the heating pad."

Another danger of cold weather is ice. People are also anxious to skate on it, which can be dangerous. It is best not to walk or skate on a frozen lake or pond without knowing how deep the ice is. If someone should fall in cold water hypothermia is likely to occur, Simmons said.

Hypothermia occurs when body temperature drops so low the body must slow down to preserve itself. Simmons said people with hypothermia will be cold, confused, sleepy and unconscious. She said they need to seek medical attention.

Warming up with Peppermint Schnapps during a cold event is tempting to many people, but Simmons said alcohol only does more harm because it causes the

body to be in cold stress quicker.

Simmons said St. Francis has not seen any patients yet from last week's fierce winter weather. She said when they do see patients because of the cold, it is generally elderly people.

"With elderly people their circulation is poor to begin with," Simmons said. "It never ceases to amaze me the conditions people live in around this area. Some rural homes do not have a central heating system and some of the elderly are not living in good conditions."

Even though people usually have confidence in their vehicles, they should still take precautions.

Dean Guymon, support manager of the automotive center at Wal-Mart, said it is best to keep cars in tune.

"During a tune-up you should have oil, spark plugs, antifreeze and the air filter all checked," Guymon said. "The cold weather can zap a battery, so it is a good idea to have an overkill on a battery."

Besides keeping your vehicle in tune it is also a good idea to keep extra gloves, head wear, shoes, a blanket, a flashlight and a spare tire.

"If you don't have to go out when it is bad, don't go," Brad Darling, deputy sheriff of Nodaway County, said. "If your car begins to slide don't over-correct the steering and don't slam on the breaks."

It is important to keep all these safety tips in mind because cold weather can turn deadly for some.

Case in point: an elderly man died because of the minus degree temperature weather last week in Kansas City, Mo.

How to protect yourself this winter

Here are some area prices courtesy of Wal-Mart of some items you can use to keep yourself warm and safe this winter:

- Antifreeze: \$5.50 per bottle
- Gas protectant: from \$.50 to \$2.50
- Washer fluid: \$1 per bottle
- Rock salt: \$1.50
- Snow shovels: \$9-\$25
- De-icer: \$2-\$2.50
- Ice scrapers: \$1-\$3
- Heaters: \$10-\$170
- Electric blankets: about \$50

To check on road conditions:
Call (816) 387-2345 for a recording from the Sheriff's department

Speech team earns No. 1

JENNIE NELSON
CHIEF REPORTER

Members of the Northwest speech team received an early Christmas present at the end of last semester, as the team received a No. 1 ranking out of 13 schools in the state.

The results were determined by Tim Hughes of Longview Community College, who based the results on all the tournaments the team competed with in the fall semester.

Jeff Przybylo, Northwest speech coach, said the No. 1 ranking was the result of many people's effort.

"It was a combination of everything," Przybylo said. "It was people (on our team) placing in the top six at every tournament, and it was everyone doing well."

Although the team is No. 1 going into the spring semester, Przybylo said the team is not finished striving for excellence.

"We're more motivated to keep up the good work," Przybylo said. "This proves we're poised to win the state championship."

The state championship will be determined in February. In the past years Northwest has received second

and third place.

Team members also think the No. 1 ranking pushes them to achieve more.

"It feels good," Marc Vasquez, public relations major, said. "Once you do well, you're not only pressured to maintain that rank but do better."

Vasquez was also ranked as the top speaker in the state, with Northwest team members Neil Neumeyer and Shawn Bechtol ranked second and third, respectively.

"I still have to work to maintain that rank," Vasquez said.

Comic arrives after sickness

COLLEEN COOKE
COPY DIRECTOR

His voice, his means of employment, his vessel for laughs, is back — and so is he.

After postponing a scheduled Dec. 6 performance at Northwest because a bout with the flu made him lose his voice, comic ventriloquist Jeff Dunham will be here at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 23 at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

Individuals who have already bought tickets to the show can keep their tickets because they will be honored at the new date. However, a full refund is available for those who wish to return their tickets.

Dave Gieseke, director of news and information, said he tried to reschedule the event for Wednesday, Jan. 24 because the Dec. 6 show was also on a Wednesday.

Gieseke said while a few people have returned tickets, more seats have been sold since the cancellation. As of Monday, 581 tickets have been sold. Originally, 561 tickets had been purchased for the Dec. 6 show.

At \$8 for orchestra seats and \$6 for balcony, plenty of tickets are still available for the show.

Along with his puppets (or "partners in comedy" as they are called), Dunham has become a headlining comedian after spending many years on the stand-up circuit. Dunham is one of only five comedians who had been invited to sit on Johnny Carson's couch on his first "Tonight" show appearance.

His most popular "partners" are Walter (a bitter old man), Peanut (a strange-looking creature) and Jose Jalepeño on a stick (which is self-explanatory).

Dunham's Dec. 6 appearance at



Jeff Dunham and his "partners in comedy" are coming to Northwest 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 23 for a show in the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center. Tickets are still available.

Northwest was originally the last leg of his stand-up tour, so his illness did not affect any other performances. The show is a Northwest Encore Performance and is sponsored by Campus Activity Programmers and X 106 radio station.

Former student receives sentence

TATE SINCLAIR
CHIEF REPORTER

A former Northwest student who was convicted of arson in November was sentenced to six years in prison Monday.

Kelly K. Conwell, who is originally from Liberty, set fire to an apartment at 322 S. Main on Feb. 15, 1995.

The apartment that was set ablaze was inhabited by Russell Law, Phillip Larson and Ryan Cummins, a man she was reportedly romantically involved with.

Cummins and his roommates were supportive of Conwell immediately after she was charged, according to a February 1995 Northwest Missourian story.

"You can replace material objects,

but you can't replace a friend," Cummins said.

Even after Conwell was charged with the crime, Cummins still had feelings for her.

"I'll always love her," Cummins said back in February.

Prosecuting attorney David Baird said Conwell pled guilty to the crime on Nov. 13. She was convicted Monday of arson in the second degree, a class C felony.

He did not know which penitentiary Conwell would spend her sentence.

"There are between 15 and 20 state penitentiaries in Missouri," Baird said. "There is no way of telling which one she will be sent to."

Conwell withdrew from Northwest and returned to her home in Liberty shortly after being charged.

CRASH

continued from page 1

down in mountain terrain. The plane carried 156 passengers, four of them infants, and eight crew members. In the end, 160 people died including Ramirez's parents. Ramirez and the three other survivors were sitting next to the wing. Ramirez's parents were sitting together farther up in the aircraft.

At least 48 passengers on the plane were American citizens.

A memorial service took place for Ramirez's parents Jan. 1 in Kansas City, Mo. The family was active in the Latin American community in Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Ramirez worked for Trans World Airlines at KCI.

Investigators believe the cause of the crash is speculated pilot error. The plane was due to land in minutes when it smashed into a peak of the Andes Mountains after the plane aircraft went 13 miles off course.

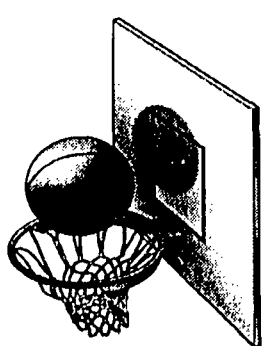
Thank You

Carolyn and I take this opportunity to express to each of you—students, faculty and staff—our deep appreciation for the wonderful gifts and the warm, thoughtful messages sent our way in relation to retirement. Also, thank you for the friendships we have enjoyed during our years of association with the university. We are sincerely touched.

Our best wishes to you individually and collectively for your continued service and success. We'll be down the street watching and enjoying your achievements. Northwest is a great university because of you.

Bob and Carolyn Henry

\$5,000
could be
yours on
Jan. 17!



X-106, the Rock Alternative, wants to give you \$5,000! Pick up your free ticket before the start of the men's basketball game.

If your ticket is called,
hit a 1/2 court shot and \$5,000 is yours!

Listen for more details on KDLX

TALENT AUDITIONS

For Singers & Dancers

"All the World's a Stage" at Worlds of Fun from our lively 60's - 70's rock revue, STAX OF WAX, to our spectacular contemporary country music show at the Tivoli Music Hall. Performing at Worlds of Fun is FUN, and it can be that important First Step toward a professional career. More than 1.3 million Worlds of Fun Guests are waiting to discover YOU!

AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS

If you are a singer, please sing one verse and chorus of two contrasting styles of song: one up-tempo and one ballad. Sing any type music you enjoy: rock, country, show tunes, etc. (No Rap.) Singer auditions should be no longer than three minutes in length.

Dancers should prepare one song to sing and a jazz routine no longer than two minutes.

You must provide your own accompaniment whether it be a pianist or a cassette tape. We will provide a cassette deck and a piano. A cappella auditions will not be accepted.

We are not auditioning bands, solo instrumentalists or dramatic actors.

THE CLOSEST AUDITIONS:

Kansas City, Missouri
Saturday, January 20 - Crowne Plaza Hotel - Seville Ballroom
4445 Main Street (Just north of the Plaza.)
9:00 a.m. (Registration closes at 1:00 p.m.)

Overland Park, Kansas
Saturday, January 27 - Doubletree Hotel
10100 College Blvd. (Just off of 69 Highway south.)
9:00 a.m. (Registration closes at 1:00 p.m.)

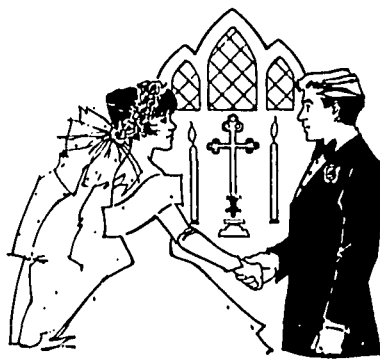
Kansas City, Missouri
Sunday, February 4 - Park Place Hotel
1601 N. Universal Avenue (Just off Front Street at I-435.)
1:00 p.m. (Registration closes at 4:00 p.m.)

*Applicants must be at least 16 years of age by 5-5-96.
For more information and a complete audition schedule, contact the Worlds of Fun Live Entertainment Department at (816) 454-4545, Ext. 1350. E.O.E.



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Billie's Unique Boutique's
ANNUAL
Bridal Showcase and
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Saturday, January 13th
Holiday Ballroom
Downtown St. Joseph
Booths Open at 12:30 p.m.
Showtime 1:30 p.m.
FREE ADMISSION
AND DOOR PRIZES
Billie O'Dell, Owner/Bridal Coordinator
Carlene Moran, Bridal Consultant



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(816) 279-3837

Chaun's Catering
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(816) 233-7990

Cruise One
Greg and Paula Overholt CLIA
(816) 233-8063

Fat Cat Productions
St. Joseph
(816) 232-9694

Gillette Floral & Balloons
125 Cherokee, St. Joseph
(816) 238-3375

Billie's Unique Boutique
1109 S. Bell, St. Joseph
(816) 232-0094 or 800-573-0094

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20th & Jules, St. Joseph
(816) 232-5467

Holiday Inn Downtown
102 S. 3rd Street, St. Joseph
(816) 279-8000

Leibowitz, Inc.
East Ridge Village, St. Joseph
(816) 279-7481

Mary Kay Cosmetics
Kay Simpson, Sales Dir., St. Joseph
(816) 233-3915

OK Trophy Awards & Gifts
2624 Lafayette, St. Joseph
(816) 233-0993

Photographs & Memories
Rt. 1 Box 71, Oregon
(816) 446-2056

Royal Elegance Fine China
Kansas City
1-800-729-6346

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3715 Beck, St. Joseph
(816) 364-0022

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(816) 232-3326

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Hours: Mon. thru Fri. 9:30 to 5:30; Sat. 9:30 to 4:30; Evenings & Sun. by Appt.